

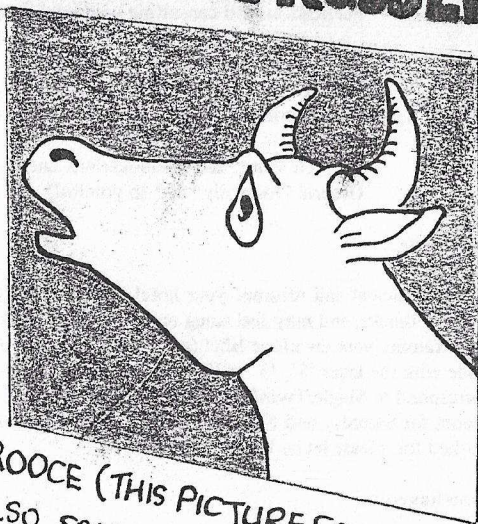
DIDGERIDOOZE

The 12th British Filkcon



WANTED

FOR CATTLE RUSSLING



BROOCE (THIS PICTURE SOME YEARS OLD)
ALSO SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH
ABUSE OF DIGERIDOO, LYRICAL THEFT
AND CORRUPTION OF BUS PASSENGERS

Introitorial

Why have a PR3? Mostly because we had one last time. Of course then we had a somewhat earlier PR2 but what the heck! Besides, if your household is as disorganised as ours, there's at least a moderate chance that PR2 vanished without a trace into the Bermuda Triangle of "stuff tidied up after Christmas" to reemerge months or years later, much like a woolly mammoth looming through the Siberian ice. Well, not exactly like, as even our PRs don't run to long hair and tusks, but you know what I mean. (Actually, the Obliter-8 PR3 *did* have a woolly mammoth on the cover, but I digress...)

Welcome to PR3 – packed tightly into the depths of this small but finely formed document you will find notes on hotel bookings for those who have returned their forms, or repeated instructions for those who haven't. Also, a slightly more detailed set of 'how to get there' instructions, including map. Plus yet another installment of the unnatural history of Brooce, our globetrotting concrete cow mascot. And notes on anything else we thought we ought to tell you at this point.

Cowmittee

Lissa Allcock	Memberships, Hotel Booking and general organisation
Smitty	Publications and consulting concretobiologist
Tim Walker	Hotel liaison and stressed looks
Annie Walker	Programming, webmistress and worried looks.
Philip Allcock	Me. Treasurer, more publications and general dogsbody (though that's General Dogsbody *Sir* to you lot!)

Hotel Booking - if you have...

If you've been good and efficient and returned your hotel booking forms, whether by post or electron stream, then you have our thanks, and may feel smug and ignore the repeated booking form instructions below. If you instead examine your envelope label (after fishing it back out of the bin if necessary) you will find a cryptic code with the letter 'S', 'T' or 'D' followed by some combination of the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The letters correspond to Single/Twin/Double and the numbers to Fri/Sat/Sun nights respectively. Thus T23 is a twin room for Saturday and Sunday nights. If what you have on your label doesn't match what you think you asked for, please let us know.

Hotel Booking - if you haven't...

If we haven't received a booking form from you, there should be another one on a separate A5 sheet that came with this PR or attached to electronic ones. If it didn't, either try and find the one from PR2, or just ask us for a new one. Or go to our web site and fetch one:-
(<http://www.weyrd.demon.co.uk/didgeridouze/didgeridouze.html>).

Fill it in and send it to us. As soon as you can please. We'll try and chase at least some those we are surprised not to have a form from, but can't promise to catch everybody. As before (unsurprisingly, as it's the same form) the form helpfully has the address suitably emblazoned on the back, so you can just fold and secure, add a stamp and post it.

The Instructions

Prices are £35 per person, per night in a double/twin room and £45 for single occupancy. Any special requirements, please contact the committee. As some people found last time, there are rooms adjoining the late night ilk rooms. We are assuming that you will NOT want to sleep in these unless you specify it on the form in the "special requirements" section. If you would be happy to have one of these rooms (eg to save yourself from having to lug all your equipment down long corridors and back) then please let us know.

In line with previous years, there will be a discount on the Sunday night if you stay all three nights - you will get five pounds off on Sunday night if you book all three nights in advance. Please indicate each night that you will be staying. If you are unsure about the Sunday night then leave that box blank - a booking can always be extended once you get to the convention.

You may only share with another member of the convention. If you specify a sharer who has not joined, your application will not be processed until they do do join (but we will let you know they haven't joined!). If you want us to find a sharer for you and wish to exclude certain people from consideration please write their names on a separate piece of paper headed with your name and titled "Exclusion List". This information will only be seen by Lissa as Hotel Room Wrangler.

The space on the form for Special Requirements is for you to indicate the need for such things as non-feather pillows etc. Requests for a ton of chocolate each day will be ignored in the usual fashion, even if you are a confirmed chocoholic (even if you are the GoH *and* a confirmed chocoholic.) Feeding your vices is still your own irresponsibility.

The hotel does not require deposits, but neither will it be sending out confirmations of bookings. As noted above, all pre-PR3 bookings should be annotated on your labels. For post-PR3 bookings, we'll confirm electronically where we can, or just give us a call if you're nervous. The hotel has plenty of rooms, though, so there's no need to be too paranoid.

If any of this is confusing, please contact us at the con address. Please send all con-related e-mail to the proper address - life gets confusing if con mail vanishes into our personal inboxes. The con address is didgeri-12@oreos.demon.co.uk.

Programme

Please don't be surprised if you hear a loud painful groaning sound. That's either the programme creaking at the seams or Annie worrying about how we're ever going to fit everything into it. We've got something like 15 cowncert spots - plus the Main Cowncert - so get in your caffeine supplies because we'll be starting at 10am both Saturday and Sunday, plus running through to midnight on Saturday.

Programming starts (subject to usual set-up uncertainties, though it looks like we can get the room quite early) with the opening ceremony at 1930 on Friday, and the first concert (who else for an MK Filkcon but B & B?) at 2000. So hopefully most people will have time to arrive, settle in, have a drink, generally socialise and/or help people lug stuff around before we dive into the programme proper.

How to Get There

Just to help confuse people, what was (at Obliter-8) the Forte Crest hotel, Milton Keynes is now the Posthouse hotel. But, in the theoretically rational and sensible black art that is MK street numbering, it may still be found on V7, between H5 and H6.

And because we enjoyed it so much last time. V7 - H5 - H6 - "You sank my battleship!".

By Train

Take the train to Milton Keynes Central Station. From the station walk past the bus station and straight up Midsummer Boulevard towards the 'city centre' (the mall!). The hotel is on the right, with the cinema across the road (Saxon Gate West) and the shopping centre diagonally across the junction. The hotel brochure claims it's a half mile walk, though the map suggests slightly more as does my memory - it's also slightly uphill - nothing serious, but if you've heavy luggage you may want to consider bus or taxi.

By Car

Exit the M1 at junction 14 towards Milton Keynes. At the roundabout go straight on (*Childs Way* - H6) and follow this across six roundabouts - I think. After half a dozen roundabouts they all blur into one another! Anyway, when you reach one called *South Saxon* turn right into *Saxon Gate* (V7). Go through one set of traffic lights (preferably while green) and the hotel is on your left between *Avebury Boulevard* and *Midsummer Boulevard*. There's plenty of parking.

Alternatively, from the A5 come off at the Central Milton Keynes turning and follow the signs at the roundabout for (unsurprisingly) Central Milton Keynes (*Portway* H5). At the third (subsequent) roundabout, turn right into *Saxon Gate* (V7) and through two sets of traffic lights. The hotel is then on your right. There's still plenty of parking.

By Kangaroo

As above, but much bouncier. Take travel sickness pills.

In case of travel emergencies etc., phone numbers for hotel, committee mobile phones etc. are listed on the page 5. So if the emergency is that you've lost this PR and hence your directions they're not going to be much use, but otherwise, they're there if you *urgently* need them.

The Filk Fund - by Lissa, the Fund Administrator

The Fund is feeling pretty healthy these days. Which is wonderful, of course. However, it could be even healthier and I'm depending on *you* to make it so. So here's another reminder to bring lots of fun things to put into the Filk Fund Auction.

Moosic has a Strong Magic – the British Filk Awards

As last year, we will be running a set of British Filk Awards, with similarly silly yet mysteriously desirable prizes. As before, the categories will be Best Serious Song and Best Silly Song (both with 4 year eligibility), Filk Gold (for any song outside the 4 year window without a previous award) and an At Con award for the most memorable song/performance at the convention itself.

Voting procedures will be much the same as last time as they seemed to work well. However, this time we're not going to try soliciting nominations in advance, as much better results seemed to be obtained using the white board approach for initial nominations.

So you don't need to do anything now. *Except*, we would ask if the songwriters out there could please make sure that they know (to within a year) when each of their more recent songs were premiered. And have that information at the con so you can answer confidently (and hopefully accurately) when we send our questing minions in search of those crucial facts!

The Saga of Brooce...

It had been a rousing send off. Or send up. Brooce couldn't quite decide which... Having travelled across Australia, all the way from Hope Springs to Canthisongowonmuchlonga, been reborn as "Broocilla, Cow of the Desert" - and introduced the 'ladies' to several rather unorthodox yet strangely compelling alternative versions of Abba songs (their version of "Portaloo" had to be seen to be believed) - he decided that the time had come for him to moo-ve on.

And so it was that he came to take a fateful step in his career - the step towards criminality. Yes, even further than going to Australia in the first place. No more Mr Nice Cow. His name would live on in infamy (infamy... they've all got it infamy...).

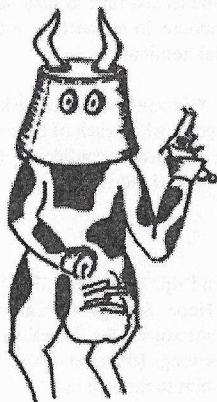
For whilst making his slow, yet definite progress ('solid' was always a good adjective for Brooce) across the ranches of Southern Australia, he had encountered herds of non-concrete cows (an amazing thing, though he still wasn't sure the idea would catch on), kept captive for the profit and pleasure of humans. He was shocked, horrified and morally outraged. (Morally deficient went without saying – he was a filker, after all.) So he decided to strike a blow for freedom!

At the dead of night, Brooce sneaked (snuck?) to the electrified fences and simply and wilfully sat on them, allowing his flesh-and-blood cousins to run wild and free - into the next field, and a nice supply of fresh grass. And again and again, from farm to farm, night after night, Brooce wrought his trail of havoc across the country. He hoped that his midnight freedom attacks would go unremarked, but he had reckoned without the vigilance of the local police force. They had noticed several tons of freedom-fighting cow, and they were ANNOYED.

So the hunt for "Ned Cowly" was on. The police force hired trackers to follow the villain through the outback (spotting delicate, specialised tracking signs such as flattened kangaroos, traumatised koalas and the occasional discarded didgeridoo) until they cornered our readymixed hero in his outback hideaway.

How would he escape? Armed only with an out-of-tune 12-string (like harps, there is no other sort), a songbook of decidedly dodgy rip-offs and an old galvanised bucket, he would need to be cunning, daring and .. well... bullet-proof really. Being made from cement helped tremendously with the last point, but it would be a close-run thing...

And even if he got away, where would he go? What would he do...?"



Moombership

We now have 131 members. Looking good for a big con.

Attending membership is now £25 (£15 unwaged). Supporting membership is half that, conversion being half of full rate at time of conversion. Cheques should be made payable to "Didgeri-12" and supplied along with your postal name and address, membership type wanted and desired badge name (if different). Members will be listed by badge name in con publications and Membership information will be kept on computer and used only for purposes of UK Filk Conventions.

Contact Details

Snail Mail 119 Whitehill Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5LU
E-Mail didgeri-12@oreos.demon.co.uk
Web www.weyrd.demon.co.uk/didgeridouze/didgeridouze.html

Emoogeny phone numbers	Helen	0870 400 9057 (then dial 7 for Reception)
	Tim	0966 225364
	Lissa	0780 337 9812
	Annie	0966 221447

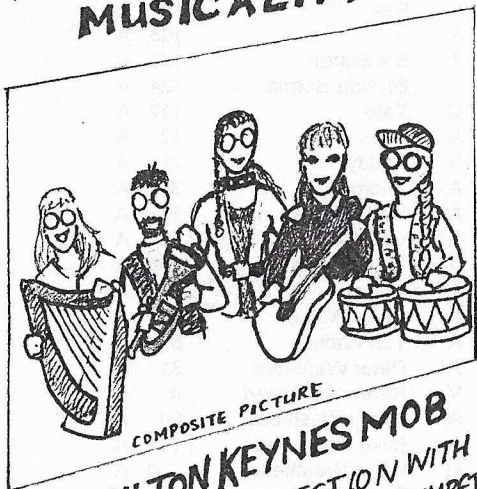
Moombership list as at 19/1/2000

Alasdair	59	A	Freddy Filk Frog	113	A	Rika the Bardling	38	A
Alison	64	A	Ben Fromago	52	A	Roger Robinson	16	A
Lissa Allcock	5	C	Alan Frost	94	A	Tony Rogers	19	A
Philip Allcock	6	C	Gwen Funnell	30	A	Rowan	96	A
Andy	78	A	Martin GK	79	A	Rufus	73	A
Anke	25	A	Clare Goodall	125	A	Ruth	114	A
Aunty Sue	67	A	Juergen Hahn	26	A	Annabelle Sampson	118	A
Andrew Barton	68	A	Niall Hedderley	126	A	Sara	81	A
Bear	61	A	Heike	40	A	Kirstin	17	A
Chris Bell	27	A	Hilary Ann	91	A	Smitty	9	C
Dan Bennett	80	A	Hitch	116	A	Snowdrop	122	A
Michael Bernardi	51	A	Rhodri James	43	A	Kate Soley-Barton	69	A
Brian Biddle	1	G	Janet	76	A	Kathy Sterry	41	A
Catherine Biddle	11	A	Jared	129	A	Steve	121	A
Susan	22	A	Jenny	37	A	Barbara Stewart	49	A
Roger Burton West	87	S	Godfrey Joseph	92	A	John Stewart	50	A
Alan Cash	85	A	Joy	45	A	Marcus Streets	102	A
Janet Cash	86	A	Katy	29	A	Rae	101	A
Neil Chambers	66	A	Keris	34	A	~	103	A
Chris	117	A	Corwin Kimberley	14	A	Bill Sutton	123	V
Christine	111	A	Klueless	82	A	Brenda Sutton	124	V
Christo	107	A	Jodi Krangle	4	G	Tajo	112	A
Colin	28	A	David Laight	105	A	Talis	12	A
Carol Cooper	93	A	Laura	115	A	Teddy	21	A
Countess Axylides	72	A	Maeve	74	A	Thomas	39	A
Rafe Culpin	65	A	The Magician	23	A	Peter Tyers	77	A
Steve Davies	33	A	Marion	84	A	Valerie	46	A
Giulia de Cesare	32	A	Robert Maughan	75	A	Vera Emlyn	108	A
Caitlin Dean	58	A	Melusine	89	A	Volker	18	A
Lawrence Dean	56	A	Miki	47	A	Anne Walker	7	C
DJ	53	A	Minstrel	44	A	Tim Walker	8	C
Donna	90	A	Molly	110	A	Peter Wareham	31	A
Dreamer	127	V	Erica Neely	119	V	Karen Westhead	97	A
Allison Durno	3	G	Nicky	57	A	Kathy Westhead	98	A
Sue Edwards	42	A	Nigel	54	A	Mike Westhead	99	A
Dawn Everett Biddle	10	A	Debbie Ohj	2	G	Peter Westhead	100	A
XX	13	A	Omega	95	A	Anne Whitaker	35	A
FanTom	20	A	Oriole	24	A	James Whitaker	130	A
The Fiddler	106	A	Claire Parsons	55	A	Mike Whitaker	36	A
Colin Fine	104	A	Paul B =:o}	70	A	Winterpaw	128	V
Brian Flatt	62	A	David Peek	131	A	Thomas Womack	88	A
Folo	120	V	Hugh Peerey	83	A	Yooch	60	A
Fox	15	S	Mike Richards	63	A	Zander Nyronnd	71	A
Franklin	109	A	Rick	48	A			

A big 'thank-you!' to Teddy for our cover art this time around
(yes - I know it's sad to hand-write this in, but I've already had enough
battles with Word today...)

WANTED

FOR CRIMES AGAINST
MUSICALITY



THE MILTON KEYNES MOB

ALSO SOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH
HARP HOARDING, LATE NIGHT TRUMPET
SOLOS, SONG THEFT, JEDI SMUT AND
TRAUMATISED ACTION-FIGURES
REWARD OFFERED BY RESIDENTS OF GRAVESEND
AND G. LUCAS

ANNUAL
POLICE
BARBIE

12th FEB. 2000
STATION YARD
COME ALONG AND
TRY SGT DINGO'S
STUFFED WOMBAT

DONUTS

CHIPS
KID
KID

